

**KNOWLEDGE**  
**KNOWS NO**  
**BOUNDS**  
學海無涯

Annual Report  
**2019-2020**



The International School  
OF MACAO | 澳門國際學校





## **Mission Statement**

*In a safe, caring and welcoming environment, our mission is to develop socially responsible, life-long learners able to problem solve, think critically, and make positive changes in our global community.*





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## 校長的致辭

### Message from the Head of School



**Howard Stribbell**  
Interim Head of School 2020-21

The academic year 2019-20 was a challenging year for most schools and this was also true for The International School of Macao. I believe the whole world will remember the Year 2020.

The pandemic forced us to pivot to online learning and I am so thankful for the teachers, students and parents who worked together to make the most of the difficult situation. While our school community has a depth of technology skills, we still had to figure out a new way of learning while keeping everyone safe. We were so pleased when we were able to resume face to face classes and to hold our graduation ceremony when so many of the Class of 2020 around the world were not so fortunate.

This year, we also bid farewell to Head of School Mark

Lockwood who resigned for personal reasons. We want to thank Mark for his leadership during the past two years and wish him and Tracy all the best as they return to Canada.

This year's Annual Report is different from previous years. Due to the school closures, the government exams for the Provincial Achievement Exams and Diploma Exams as well as the IB Exams and the Canadian Achievement Tests were not able to be written. We report on this data each year. As such, this year's report only reflects teacher awarded marks.

Despite the changes, our students did well. I am very pleased to report that our Class of 2020 earned acceptances to 190 universities and more than MOP 10 million in scholarships!

對於大多數學校而言，2019-20學年是充滿挑戰的一年，對於澳門國際學校亦是如此。我相信全世界都會記住2020年。

疫情迫使我們轉為在線學習，我非常感謝老師、學生和家長們的共同努力，使我們克服困境、共度難關。雖然我校一向擁有多元化的教學技術和豐富的授課方式，但在疫情之下，我們仍然為學生開創出一種湛新的學習模式，讓學生安坐家中亦能接受優質的教育。在全球未能完全複課的情況下，我校能迅速恢復面授課程，並舉行了2020屆畢業生的畢業典禮，為此我們感到非常高興。

Mark 在過去兩年的任期內為學校的各項發展作出了許多貢獻，今年因為私人原因要離開澳門。在此，我們全校向他表示衷心的感謝，並祝願他和Tracy在返回加拿大後一切順利。

今年的成績報告跟往年的有所不同。由於學校停課，艾伯特政府的省級成績考試和文憑考試以及國際文憑考試和加拿大成績測試都無法進行。我們歷年來都會對這些公開考試的成績數據進行匯報，但今年的報告僅反映教師給學生的分數。

儘管本學年充滿了變化，但我們的學生還是取得了優異的成績。我很高興地向大家公布，我校2020年的畢業生獲得了190所大學的錄取通知，並獲得了超過1000萬澳門幣的獎學金！





**John Crawford**  
Board Chair



**Neil Johnston**  
Board Member



**Peter Lam**  
Board Member



**Dr. K.L. Tong**  
Board Member



**Howard Stribbell**  
Board Member



**Crystal Kuan**  
Board Secretary

## 校董會致辭 Message from the Board of Governors

What an unusual and dramatic year this has been - one that has demonstrated the strength, professionalism and collaboration from our teachers, students, parents and staff. TIS was able to mobilize its resources to adapt to the mandatory school closure, roll out an online learning platform and continue its curriculum and programs for our students. Our management team ensured that our campus and staff were ready in the event of school reopenings. As a result when this occurred, we were able to ramp up quickly, complete, and celebrate the school year successfully with all of our students and staff together.

Despite the extreme challenge in continuing the programs, our graduating class of 68 students accumulated over MOP 10 million in scholarships. As well, 33 percent of the graduating class received acceptances into the Top 50 Universities Worldwide, according to QS World University Ranking 2020. We credit and congratulate the teachers, staff and parents who made this achievement possible.

We would like to thank Mark Lockwood for his contribution to TIS over the past two years. During his tenure, we were able to achieve independent school status as well as navigate through the uncertainty of the Covid-19 pandemic, all while continuing to maintain the School's high quality education and standards. We wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

We would also like to welcome Howard Stribbell back as our Head of School for the 2020/2021 academic year. In addition, we are excited to introduce our new Head of School, Patrick Hurworth, who will be joining us for the 2021/2022 school year. With over twenty years of teaching and education management experience, Patrick comes with a wealth of international experience and we look forward to his stewardship.

Lastly, we are proud of our staff, students and parents, who have all come together to build a community where we grow and persevere together. Your energy and dedication has allowed TIS to overcome a very challenging year.

今年是不尋常的一年，也是戲劇性的一年，這一年體現了我們教師、學生、家長和員工的力量、專業性和協作性。澳門國際學校能夠調動其資源來應對學校因疫情停課的困境，推出在線學習平臺繼續為我們的學生授課。與此同時，我們的管理團隊也確保了學校校園和教職員工隨時為學校重新開學做好相關準備。因此，當不同情況下，我們都能夠迅速反應，作出應對，最終與所有的學生和教職員一起成功度過了這個特殊的學年。

儘管在授課方面面臨極大的挑戰，但我們畢業班的68名學生仍累計獲得了超過1,000萬元澳門幣的獎學金。此外，根據2020年QS世界大學排名，33%的畢業生被全球前50名的大學錄取。在此，我們要向取得這一佳績的相關老師、職員和家長表示感謝和祝賀。

我們要感謝Mark Lockwood在過去兩年中對澳門國際學校所做的貢獻。在他的任期內，我們順利成為了私立學校，並克服了新冠病毒大流行帶來的種種不確定性困難，同時繼續保持了學校的高質量教育和標準。我們祝願他今後一切順利。

我們也歡迎Howard Stribbell再次回來，擔任2020/2021學年的校長。此外，我們很高興介紹我們的新校長Patrick Hurworth，他將在2021/2022學年加入我們。Patrick擁有20多年的教學和管理經驗，也擁有豐富的國際教育經驗，我們期待著他的加入。

最後，我們為我們的教職員工、學生和家長感到自豪，大家齊心協力建立了一個社群，我們在這裡共同成長並不懈努力。你們的精力和奉獻使澳門國際學校度過了充滿挑戰的一年！

# Maintaining High Standards

The International School of Macao continues to be the only Accredited Alberta International School (AAIS) that has earned the highest level of accreditation achievement. TIS is recognized as a Tier 4 AAIS because of its consistently high academic achievement, providing a high level of extracurricular and co-curricular activities, a commitment to professional development, and a demonstrated connection to the community locally, regionally and internationally.



*Alberta*   
Accredited  
International School  
Canada 

*“The International School of Macao continues to lead the way as an Alberta accredited international school. TIS has high expectations for their students and staff. These high expectations are demonstrated through academic performance, behaviour expectations, learning experiences, post-secondary opportunities, delivery of instruction and the use of technology.”*

- Alberta Education Inspection Team

## 2019 Accountability Pillar Overall Summary

Measure Category	Evaluation	Measure	Measure Evaluation		
			Achievement	Improvement	Overall
Safe and Caring School	Excellent	Safe and Caring	Very High	Improved	Excellent
Student Learning Opportunities	Excellent	Program of Studies	Very High	Maintained	Excellent
		Education Quality	Very High	Maintained	Excellent
Student Learning Achievement (Grades K-9, Grades 10 to 12)	Excellent	Diploma: Acceptable	Very High	Improved Significantly	Excellent
		Diploma: Excellence	Very High	Improved Significantly	Excellent
Preparation for Lifelong Learning, World of Work, Citizenship	Excellent	Work Preparation	Very High	Declined	Good
		Citizenship	Very High	Improved	Excellent
Parental Involvement	Acceptable	Parental Involvement	Intermediate	Improved	Good
Continuous Improvement	Excellent	School Improvement	Very High	Improved	Excellent

As an Alberta Accredited International School, TIS undergoes a thorough on-site inspection every year which includes interviews, observations and surveys with parents, staff and students. Additionally, we participate in an annual Accountability Survey conducted by Alberta Education.

### 2019 Results

Due to the pandemic and the closure of many schools both within Alberta and internationally, the standardized exams and accountability surveys were cancelled by the Alberta Ministry of Education for 2019. The 2019 results are based on teacher awarded marks and survey results from our annual accreditation survey of parents, students, and teachers.

### Areas of Excellence

TIS continues to achieve excellent academic results that are significantly above the average results for other schools. We are seeing more students achieve levels of excellence in their grade 12 exams and this directly relates to the higher quality of universities that they are being accepted to each year. In addition to academics, it is clear that students and parents have seen an improvement in our commitment to providing a safe and caring community and that TIS is preparing students to be global citizens. This year's continuous improvement measure is based on our facilities and resources as the previous survey was not administered.

### Areas for Growth

At TIS, we are very proud of our community and how we all work together to improve the learning environment for our students. The pandemic and resulting closure of the campus and shift to online learning meant that there were limited opportunities for our parents to be involved at the school. While we were pleased to be able to reopen the campus before the end of the year, we were disappointed not to have our parents on campus as before. As we all learn how to connect and interact online, we find new ways to work together and we all look forward to when the campus can be fully reopened.

# Student Learning

## Grades 3-11 School-Awarded Grade Level Results

Due to the pandemic and school closures, the Alberta Ministry of Education cancelled all government exams. This included Grade 3, Grade 6 and Grade 9 Provincial Achievement Tests and the Grade 12 Diploma Exams. Due to the closure, we were also unable to administer the Canadian Achievement Test to students in grade 3-9.

## Elementary School Summary

2019-20 was a unique and challenging school year for our primary learners. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, our students were required to move to an online learning format from February 2020 to mid May 2020. As a result of this interruption to the normal school year, no standardized tests were completed.

Our resilient teachers adapted to new ways of teaching, learning, and communicating. Daily, developmentally appropriate plans for live online instruction, supported assignments and regular contact with students and parents in all grades were provided. The focus was on reading, writing and math instruction, with projects that could be completed at home.

We are happy to report that many of our students participated fully in the online program, and despite the challenges that a distance learning program can present, our students all experienced growth in literacy and math.

Moving forward after last year's disruption, our approach is to rigorously ensure that all students are getting the support they need and that any existing learning gaps are being filled.

## Grades 7-11

Students achieved >50%

100%

Students achieved >80% across all subjects

36.7%

### ELA:

Students achieved >50%

100%

Students achieved >80%

34.4%

### Math:

Students achieved >50%

100%

Students achieved >80%

46.3%

## Grade 12

Students achieved >50%

100%

Students achieved >80% across all subjects

52.9%

### ELA:

Students achieved >50%

100%

Students achieved >80%

42.6%

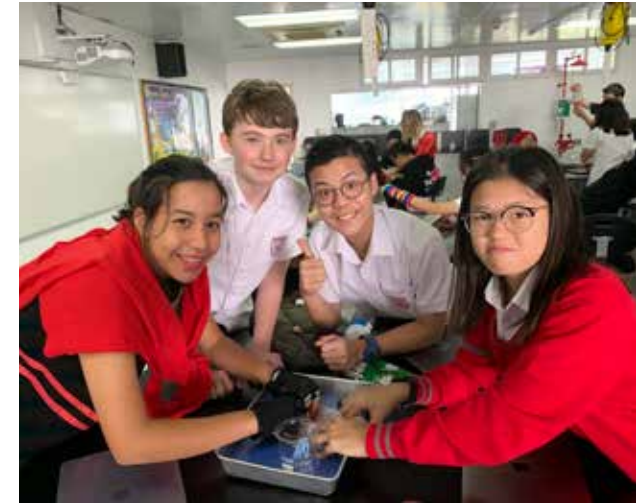
### Math:

Students achieved >50%

100%

Students achieved >80%

44.9%



## Grade 12 Diploma Exam Results

Due to Covid-19, Alberta diploma examinations in 2020 were cancelled. The school-based mark comprised 100% of the final mark.

### 2020 School-awarded Acceptable Standard (>50%)

100%

### 2019 Diploma Exam Acceptable Standard (>50%)

83.7%

### 2019 Canadian Norm

83.6%

### 2020 School-awarded Standard of Excellence (>80%)

52.9%

### 2019 Diploma Exam Standard of Excellence (>80%)

24.7%

### 2019 Canadian Norm

24%



## International Baccalaureate Programme

In addition to the Alberta High school Diploma, TIS also offers the International Baccalaureate® (IB) Diploma Programme (DP) as an option to its curriculum for Grades 11 to 12. The two-year IBDP is a challenging and balanced pre-university educational program that is recognized around the world. Students may seek an IB Certificate or an IB Diploma.

### IB Certificate

Students may choose to take one or more IB Diploma courses without fulfilling all the requirements for a full IB Diploma. They receive an IB Certificate of completion for all IB Diploma courses studied. These courses are graded on a 1-7 scale, with 7 being the maximum grade. All IB Diploma courses have a set of externally graded assessments, ranging between 60-80% of the final grade. Internally assessed coursework undergoes external moderation by the IB prior to the release of the final marks.

### IB Diploma

Students pursuing an IB Diploma are required to take six IB Diploma courses. In addition, as part of the IB Core, these students take a Theory of Knowledge (TOK) course and write an Extended Essay (EE), each of which are graded on an A-E scale. The achievement results in six IB Diploma courses are totalled, with 42 points available. Three points are available from the results of TOK and EE combined. The maximum total points attainable in an IB Diploma is 45.

#### IB Diploma courses average (1-7 scale):



#### IB Diploma total points average (45 points available):

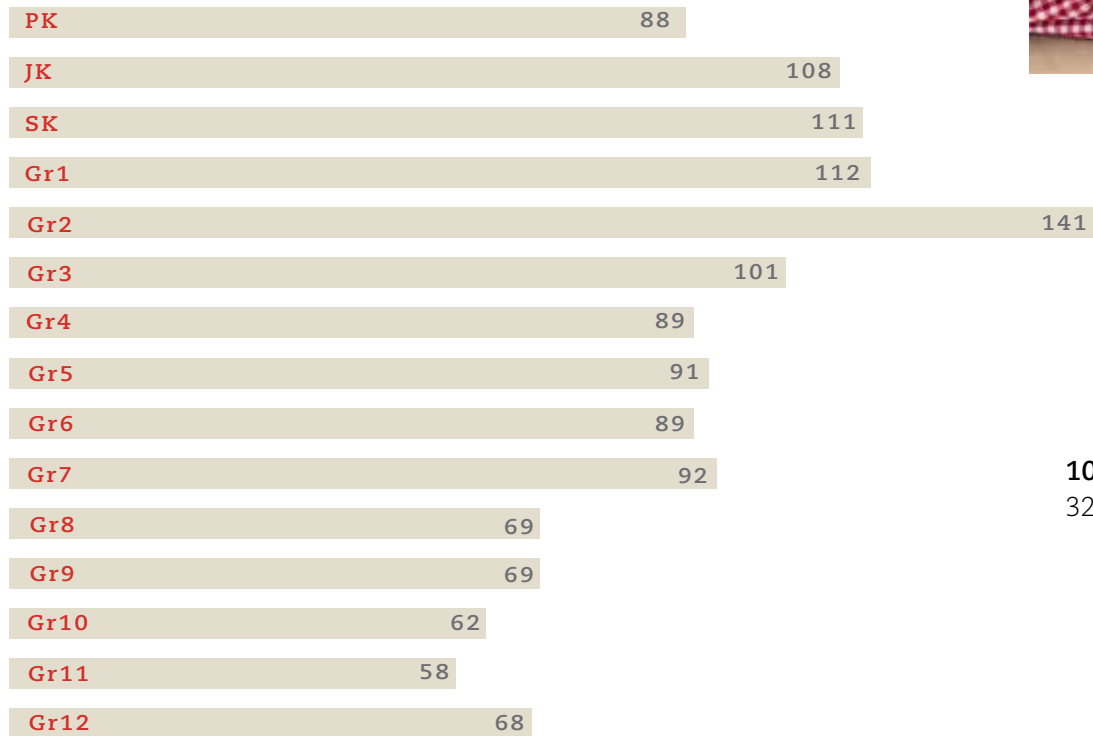


# Student Data

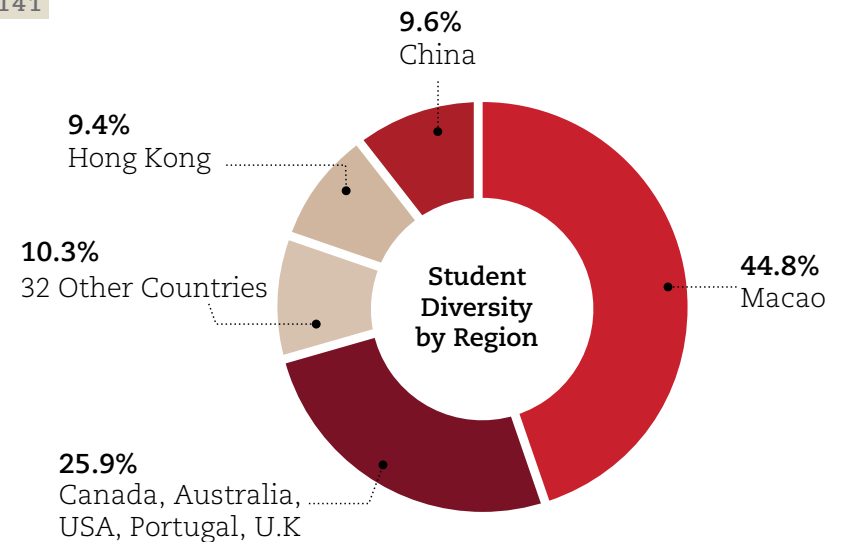
The International School of Macao is a highly diverse and multicultural community. In the 2019-2020 school year, 40 countries/regions were represented in the TIS student population.

## Student Numbers by Grade Level

**TOTAL: 1,348**



TIS experienced steady growth in student numbers in 2019-20.

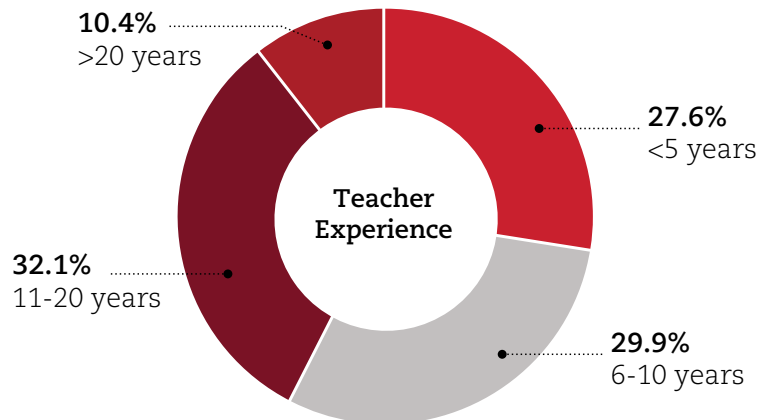
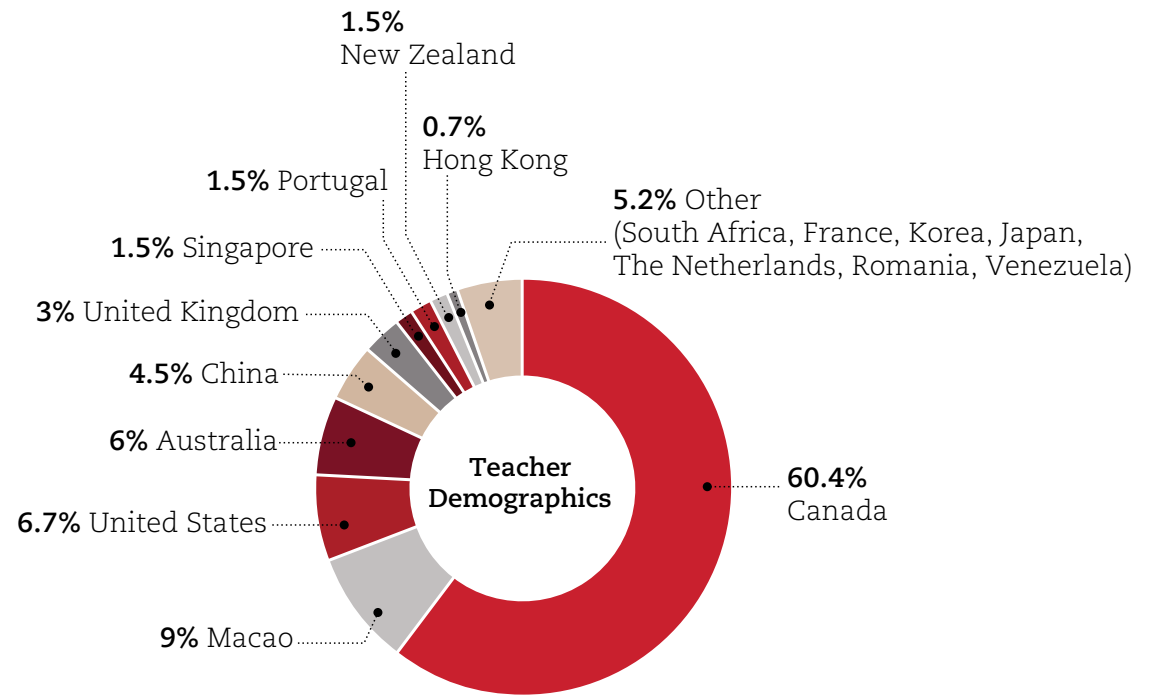




# Teaching Faculty

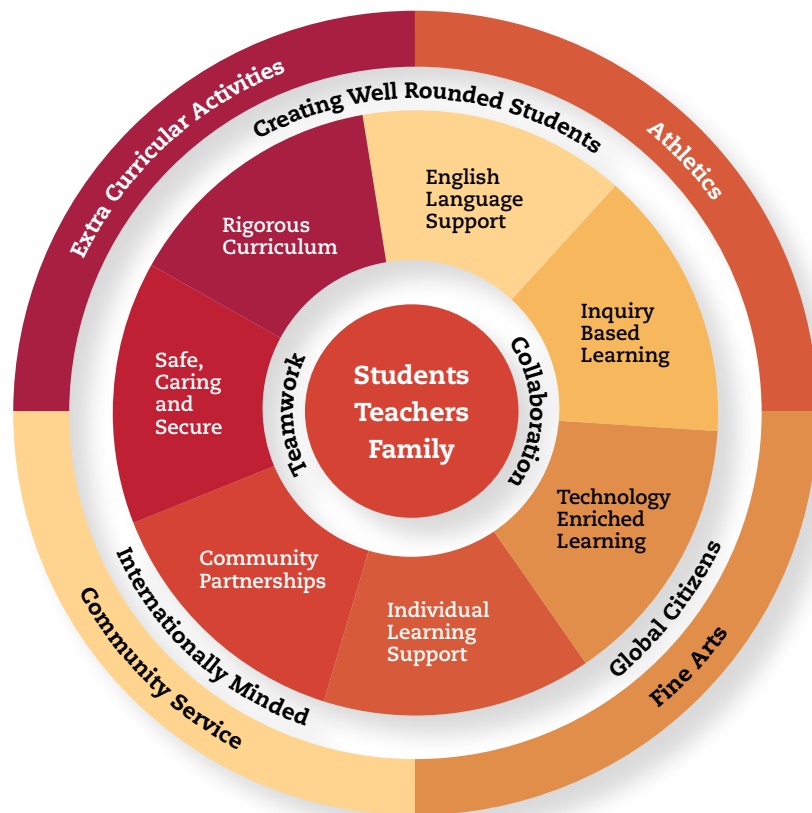
All TIS teachers participate in a rigorous referral and interview process focused on identifying high quality applicants in all grades and specialty areas. We handpick beginning teachers, mid-career teachers and those with many years of teaching experience from a variety of countries. Additionally, each division includes teachers who are experienced with the Alberta curriculum and teachers with international teaching backgrounds.

Each year our diverse faculty reflects our global community and ensures that we have the expertise at TIS to meet our high quality curricular demands. In 2019-20, the TIS faculty included a total of 134 teachers from 17 different countries.



# The TIS Advantage

TIS offers a holistic and student-focused approach to education where learning is valued, growth through diversity is encouraged, individual uniqueness respected and personal excellence is fostered by dedicated staff. Enriched programs, the latest technology and a supportive environment all contribute to the education of the whole student.



## Extra Curricular Activities

TIS offers three extra curricular sessions over the course of the year. Students sign up for a multitude of ever changing activities including Lego Club, Primary Choir, Dodgeball, Watercolour Art, Ball Hockey, Volunteer Team and many more. TIS also invites many outside agencies to use our facilities and offers extended opportunities for students such as soccer, rugby and Macau Glee Club to name a few. Students enjoyed a rich and varied ECA session in the fall, however, the winter and spring sessions had to be cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



## Athletics

The sports program at TIS continues to be one of the cornerstones of the TIS experience. Between the start of school and mid-November 2019, Tigers athletes competed in 16 overseas tournaments and dozens of DSEJ games locally in Macau. As always, our athletes competed with poise, passion, and vigor in each event, and were great ambassadors for our school by displaying sportsmanship and camaraderie on and off the sports field. In early November, TIS hosted the SCISAC U15 Soccer Tournament for the first time in our history.

Although the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in a shorter athletic season, some DSEJ sports were able to resume in June. The TIS high school boys football team made history as they became the first TIS team to win DSEJ football gold. In the same week, our high school girls basketball team netted a silver medal in the DSEJ championship game.





## Fine Arts

TIS provides many stimulating opportunities for students to explore and enhance their individuality and creativity through art, music, drama, photography and multimedia.

The theatre program offers students the chance to act, design and stage productions under faculty supervision. On November 29-30, the TIS Secondary Players performed their fall production of *Once Upon A Crime* to a sold out crowd.

Our kindergarten and elementary students showcased their talents at various Christmas concerts in December, while the grade 9 symphonic band performed at the annual Secondary Christmas Concert held on December 14th. In addition, the TIS Crescendo Choir toured the major hotels to perform classic holiday carols during the period leading up to Christmas.



## Community Service

Over 300 people participated in the Run of Hope charity fundraiser on November 10, 2019. TIS has been an active partner and co-sponsor of the event for the past seven years. Inspired by Canadian athlete, Terry Fox, the Run of Hope brings together the TIS community in many ways, through participation, sponsorship and volunteering. A total of MOP 600,000 was raised at the Run of Hope with proceeds donated to the Kiang Wu Cancer Department and the China Evangeline Fellowship Orphanage in Macau.

At the end of November, TIS welcomed its second Activist in Residence, Songqiao Yao, whose organization Wildbound connects students to nature, inspiring them to take actions in China and globally. Students learned about sustainability and raised awareness of climate change and the importance of preserving biodiversity. Through its fundraising efforts, the TIS community raised a total of MOP103,522 which was donated to the Earth Innovation Institute to support its work in preventing deforestation in the Amazon, as well as Songqiao's charity, Wildbound, in support of its youth ambassador program.

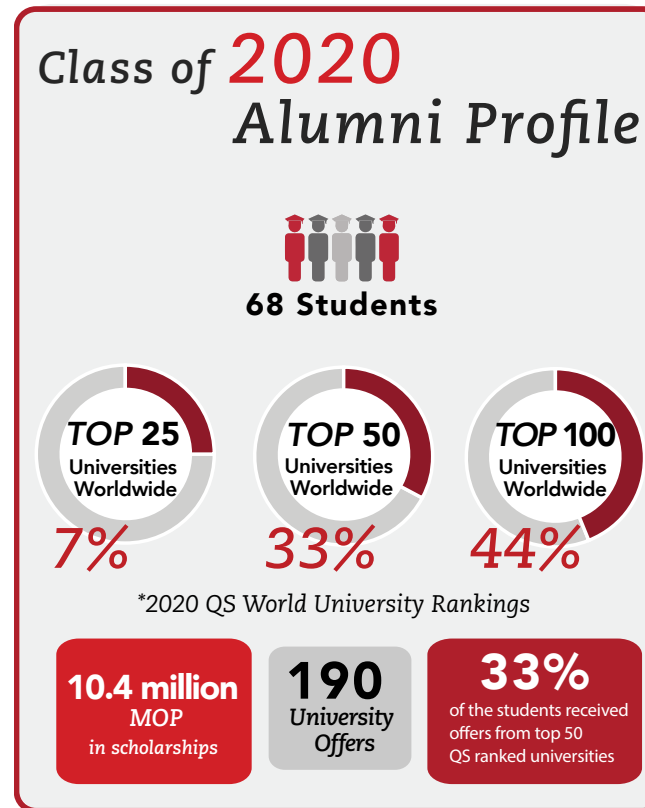


# University & College Placements

Thanks to its rigorous, well rounded curriculum and diverse learning opportunities, TIS graduates garner remarkable university acceptances worldwide and are highly sought after by international and local universities. The class of 2020's 68 students graduated with an Alberta High School Diploma. There were also five students who completed the full IB Diploma Programme at the same time. Research shows that having these certifications better equips students for the challenges of university study.

All of our students who applied to university have received direct admission offers to more than 340 universities and colleges around the globe, including highly ranked schools such as University of Oxford, University of Michigan, Imperial College London, University of Washington, University College London (UCL), University of Edinburgh, King's College London, University of Toronto, University of Hong Kong, and University of Melbourne.

This attests to the quality of the school's challenging programs and its growing global reputation in the university world. Our alumni are studying in diverse fields such as medicine, dentistry, law, engineering, business, architecture, design, film studies, music production, hotel management, education and many others. TIS graduates are also continuing their education in graduate schools and have earned acceptances to top universities for their postgraduate studies.



Over the years, TIS graduates have received offers from 343 post secondary institutions in 23 different countries:

## Australia/New Zealand

Monash University  
Queensland University of Technology  
University of Adelaide  
University of Auckland  
University of New South Wales  
University of Otago  
University of Sydney  
University of Western Australia  
University of Melbourne



**PURDUE**  
UNIVERSITY

## Canada

Acadia University  
Dalhousie University  
Emily Carr University  
McMaster University  
Queen's University  
Ryerson University  
Simon Fraser University  
University of Alberta  
University of British Columbia  
University of Calgary  
University of Guelph  
University of Saskatchewan  
University of Toronto  
University of Victoria  
University of Waterloo  
Western Ontario University  
York University



## United Kingdom

Anglia Ruskin University  
Aston University  
Cardiff University  
City University London  
Durham University  
Goldsmiths, University of London  
Heriot-Watt University  
Imperial College London  
King's College London  
Lancaster University  
Loughborough University  
Newcastle University  
Plymouth University



Queen Mary, University of London  
 Swansea University  
 University College London  
 University of Aberdeen  
 University of Bath  
 University of Birmingham  
 University of Bristol  
 University of Dundee  
 University of East Anglia  
 University of Edinburgh  
 University of Essex  
 University of Exeter  
 University of Glasgow  
 University of Kent  
 University of Leeds  
 University of Leicester  
 University of Liverpool  
 University of Manchester  
 University of Nottingham  
 University of Oxford  
 University of Reading  
 University of Sheffield  
 University of Southampton  
 University of St. Andrews  
 University of Surrey  
 University of Sussex  
 University of the Arts London  
 University of Warwick  
 University of York

### United States

American University  
 Boston University  
 Carnegie Mellon University  
 Case Western Reserve University  
 Hofstra University  
 Indiana University  
 Michigan State University  
 Northeastern University  
 Ohio State University  
 Purdue University  
 Rutgers University  
 Syracuse University  
 University of California, Berkeley  
 University of California, Davis  
 University of California, Irvine  
 University of California, Los Angeles  
 University of California, San Diego  
 University of California, Santa Barbara

University of California, Santa Cruz  
 University of Colorado Boulder  
 University of Hawaii at Manoa  
 University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign  
 University of Maryland  
 University of Massachusetts, Boston  
 University of Michigan  
 University of Minnesota  
 University of Missouri  
 University of Nevada, Reno  
 University of New Mexico  
 University of Notre Dame  
 University of Tennessee  
 University of Virginia  
 University of Washington  
 University of Wisconsin-Madison  
 Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

### Hong Kong

Chinese University of Hong Kong  
 City University Hong Kong  
 Hong Kong Baptist University  
 Hong Kong Polytechnic University  
 Hong Kong University of Science & Technology  
 Savannah College of Art and Design  
 University of Hong Kong

### Japan

Aoyama Gakuin University  
 Doshisha University  
 Temple University, Japan Campus  
 Tokyo University of Science  
 Waseda University  
 Yokohama National University

### Macao

City University of Macau  
 Institute for Tourism Studies  
 Macau Polytechnic Institute  
 Macau University of Science and Technology  
 University of Macau  
 University of St. Joseph

### Philippines

Bicol University  
 Centro Escolar University  
 University of Santo Thomas  
 University of the East



Berkeley

### Taiwan

National Taiwan University  
 Shih Chien University



UNIVERSITY OF  
 TORONTO

### Thailand

Sukhothai Thammathirat Open University

### Austria

Modul University Vienna

### The Netherlands

Erasmus University Rotterdam  
 Hotelschool The Hague  
 The Hague University of Applied Science  
 University of Amsterdam  
 Utrecht University

### Portugal

Catholic University of Portugal  
 University of Coimbra

### Switzerland

Ecole hôtelière de Lausanne  
 Hotel Institute Montreux  
 Les Roches  
 Swiss Hotel Management School

# TIS Alumni

At TIS, staying connected with our graduates is an important component of maintaining a strong school community. Indeed, graduation is not good-bye, it's hello to a whole new level of connection with our alumni!

## Alumni Profile

### *John and Joy Kuai, Class of 2017*

After spending their entire lives together, twin brother and sister John and Joy Kuai set off on different paths when they graduated from TIS in 2017. For the past three years, they've been attending universities on opposite sides of the globe and pursuing their passions in law and aviation.

John is currently in his third year of an undergraduate law program at the Catholic University of Portugal (Universidade Católica Portuguesa) while Joy is enrolled in an Honor Science degree minoring in Earth Science and Biology at the University of Waterloo in Ontario, Canada.

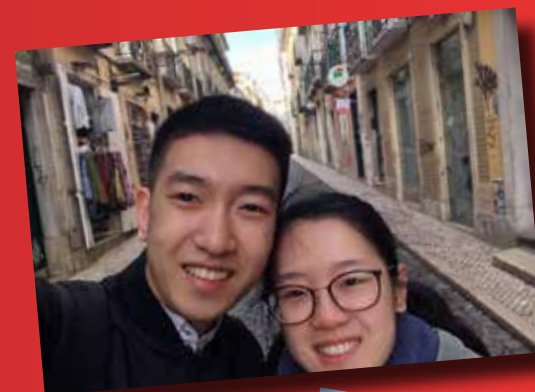
Although they have experienced their own challenges along the way (John with learning how to speak Portuguese and Joy with getting used to the university style of teaching and the amount of independent learning required), both credit TIS with helping them to be more prepared for university.

Says John, "The style of teaching in high school at TIS is actually very similar to how professors do it in university. I still remember that back in high school, we had to choose the courses that we wanted to take for every semester. This process can really help students to understand and see better for themselves what they are interested in and what they are good at."

For Joy, attending TIS helped her to adjust easier to life at a Canadian university. "TIS follows the Canadian curriculum and everything we learned about was related to Canada. Therefore, when I got to Canada, I felt less alienated and I was able to adapt to the culture quite quickly."

John and Joy will both be finishing their degrees next year. John plans on pursuing a Master's degree and becoming a certified lawyer while Joy has her eyes on potentially becoming an aircraft mechanic or an airline pilot.

As Joy says, "Sometimes life is all about unexpected events so everything has a fair chance of happening."





## Knowledge Knows No Bounds



**100%**  
University Offers



**10,400,000**  
MOP Scholarship Money  
Earned By Class of 2020



**1,343**  
Students



**606**  
Alumni Worldwide  
(and growing)



**134**  
Highly Skilled  
Teachers



**40**  
Nationalities



**25**  
Maximum Class Size



**1,435**  
Student Participants in  
Extra Curricular Activities



**400**  
Student Athletes



**40**  
Coaches



**98**  
Extra Curricular Courses



**25**  
Sports Teams



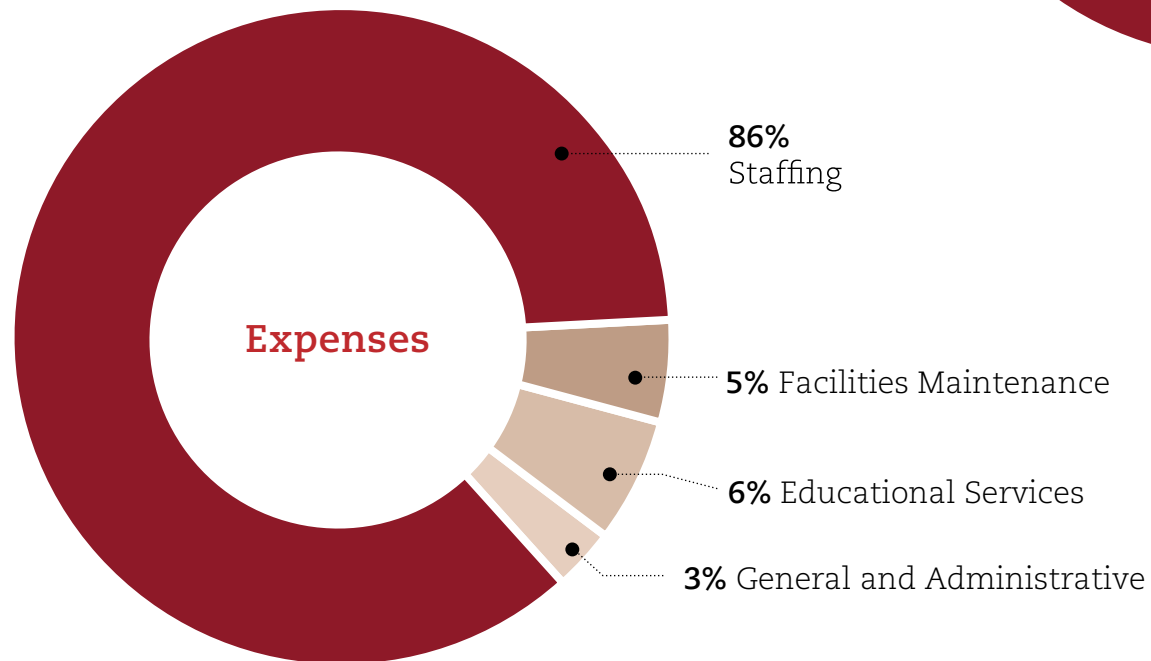
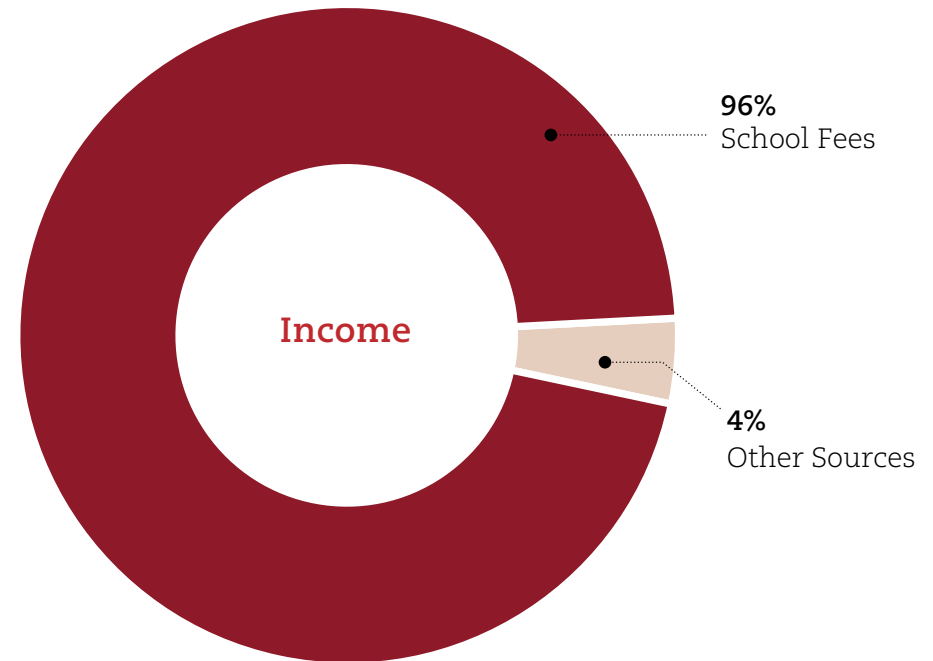
**103,522**  
MOP Raised for Charities



# Finances

As a non-profit school under the Macau University of Science and Technology Foundation, TIS seeks to maintain a balanced budget. All income received by the School is carefully spent to optimize an enriched and effective learning environment for all students.

The School is audited annually by the DSEJ and is also required to report its financial statements to Alberta Education.



# TIS Becomes Independent International School in Macau

In September 2019, the Macau Education Department (DSE) gave its approval for TIS to become a licensed and authorized independent school in Macau. The change in status, which came into effect for the 2019-2020 academic year, allowed TIS to operate outside of the Macau educational framework and provide greater flexibility in expanding the School's international focus.

The transition was very smooth with no disruptions to existing protocols or the day to day operations of the school.

As an independent school, TIS continues to be held to a high standard of accountability by Alberta Education and the Macau Government. The School undergoes a rigorous accreditation and accountability process each year which includes on-site inspections, classroom observations, interviews with parents, staff and students, as well as participation in the annual Accountability Survey and submission of the Annual Education Results Report and 3 Year Plan. Students also participate in standardized exams in grades 3, 6, 9 and 12.



# The Impact of COVID-19

Just before the Chinese New Year holiday, there were rumours about a new highly contagious virus. The School acted immediately and set up a temperature check and hand sanitizer station at the school entrance as a precaution. We were not expecting how quickly COVID-19 would affect the region and later the rest of the world.

At the end of January, DSEJ announced all schools in the Macau SAR would be suspended until further notice. The TIS Administration team met immediately and put into place procedures on how lessons could be continued with students off campus. TIS is fortunate to have excellent IT support which allowed us to move lessons online relatively quickly. However, it was still no easy task for teachers, students and parents alike to adjust to this new method of teaching on such short notice. As with any new program, teething problems were to be expected. Upper elementary and secondary students switched to online lessons with relative ease. Our younger students were a different story - the balance of non-screen time was certainly a challenge. Our strategy focused on ensuring the lessons were engaging, challenging, and flexible for the students, especially since some of our families were in a different timezone.

Schools remained closed throughout February and March. Enrollments which would normally take place in late February were postponed. The School continued to work with the IB Diploma and Alberta Diploma exam boards as the virus continued to spread around the world. Both would later announce that all external exams would be cancelled and



grades which would normally be based on external exam results would be awarded by internal grading by teachers. We are pleased to say that all of our students received their Alberta Diploma and our IB students scored above the world average. Despite the disrupted school year, all our graduating students secured admission to universities of their choice.

We are thankful that due to the strict border controls in Macau, the government was able to bring COVID cases under control and by mid-April schools were able to resume face to face lessons with staggered starts. By June, all elementary and secondary students who were in Macau were allowed back on campus. Although kindergarten classes could not resume, we were able to provide a family friendly program for eligible families following DSEJ guidelines. The School also continued online/recorded lessons for those students who were overseas and could not return to Macau.







# Campus Development

TIS continues to refine and develop its campus through ongoing renovations of both wings and existing grounds. During 2019-20, the following projects and upgrades were completed:

- Replaced classroom/office doors on 4th floor SW
- Banks of lockers added to the South Wing
- Exterior work to repair grounds, water leaks, etc.
- Ongoing sidewalk repairs
- Installed CCTV system on the fence along outdoor basketball courts and front field
- Added furniture (couches and chairs) to all floors in SW and NW
- New wooden ship constructed for Kindergarten classes

In September of 2020, we will be combining all of our office systems to the North Wing office. This will make it easier for parents as they can go to the North Wing for all of their needs - paying tuition, arranging buses, asking questions and making appointments.

Looking to the future, we will continue to refresh the South Wing learning spaces and find ways to update and improve our outdoor spaces. In 2020-21, parents can look forward to an expanded elementary STEAM lab and continued growth in the use of technology in the classroom.











# The International School

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